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SRI N. MARUDACHALAM : விவசாயப் பண்ணையில் வேலை செய்யும் விவசாயிகள் 5, 6 வருஷங்களாக வேலை செய்து வருகிறார்கள். அவர்களை நிரந்தரக் கூலிகளாக ஆக்க சர்க்கார் முன் வருமா ?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM: இதற்கு என்னிடம் தகவல் இல்லை. தனிக்கேள்வி போட்டால் பிற்பாடு விடையளிக்க முடியும்.

Prices of foodstuff

* 748 *Q.*—SRI N. K. PALANISAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Home be pleased to state whether the question of stabilisation of prices of food articles has been discussed and approved at the meeting of the National Development Council held at Delhi on the 19th and 20th March 1960;

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : At the meeting held on 19th and 20th March 1960, the National Development Council considered some basic questions relating to the Third Five-Year Plan including price policy. It was generally agreed that the plan could be formulated only on the basis that the price line would be held. It was also agreed that the Chief Ministers should meet again to discuss specific measures relating to price policy. Sir, I may add that since this answer was drafted, a meeting of the National Development Council was held on the 17th instant, and that Council has appointed a small sub-committee to go into the question of this price policy.

SRI N. K. PALANISAMI: May I know whether the Government have made any specific proposals in the National Development Council regarding price stabilisation in our State ? If so, may I know the details ?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM: This Government like any other Government made certain proposals for the consideration of the National Development Council. This Government have suggested a kind of partial procurement and running of fair price shops. But, meanwhile, the entire question has been referred to the Sub-Committee of the National Development Council. The question will be taken up again after the Sub-Committee presents its report.

SRI N. K. PALANISAMI: May I know whether the scheme of State Trading was discussed and if so what was the result of the discussion ?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : The question of State Trading is being discussed at every meeting. State Trading is not discussed as an ideal. The question is to what extent it cou'd be undertaken in order to solve the problem of prices. It is in that spirit the question has been tackled.

SRI K. ANBAZHAGAN : உணவு விலையை ஒரு மட்டத்திலே நிர்ணயிப்பதற்காக நடத்தப்படுகிற ஆலோசனையில், அகில இந்தியாவில் உணவுப் பழக்க வழக்கங்கள் மாறுபடுவதாலும், மாகாணங்களில் உணவுப் பொருள்களின் விளைச்சலின் தரம் மாறுபடுவதாலும், அகில இந்திய ரீதியில் ஒரு கொள்கையை வகுக்க முடியும் என்று இந்த அரசாங்கம் கருதுகிறதா ? அல்லது இந்த மாகாணத்திற்கு எனறு ஒரு தனி விலைவாசிக் கொள்கையை வகுக்க வேண்டுமென்று இநத அரசாங்கம் கருதுகிறதா ?

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THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : விலைவாசியைப் பொறுத்த மட்டில் இந்த மாகாணத்திற்கு என்று ஒரு தனிக் கொள்கையை வகுப்பது என்பது சீரான ஒரு நிலையை உருவாக்க ஏதுவாக இருக்காது என்று இந்த அரசாங்கம் கருதுகிறது. அகில இந்திய ரீதியில்தான் ஒரு கொள்கை நிர்ணயிக்கப்படவேண்டும். அவ்வாறு விலைவாசிபற்றிய ஒரு கொள்கையை நிர்ணயிக்கும் போது அந்தந்த மாகாணங்களிலுள்ள நிலையை எடுத்துக் கொண்டு அந்தந்த மாகாணங்களுக்கு எவ்வாறு பொருந்தும் என்று பார்த்து இந்தக் கொள்கை நிர்ணயிக்கப்படும்.

SRI A. A. RASHEED : Is it not a fact that stabilisation of prices is interconnected with production ? If it is a fact, how could the prices be stabilised without adequate production ?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM: It is no doubt correct to say that the question of stabilisation of prices is interlinked with the question of production; and the question of increasing production is being attended to. But in the meantime, it is not right to say that we should wait till production increases substantially. Therefore, we have to tackle the question of price factor also.

SRI S. LAZAR: May I know the names of members of the Sub-Committee of the National Development Council, and the terms of reference to this Committee ? May I also know whether the prevailing trend of prices will go down because of this ?

MR. SPEAKER: The names were published in the newspapers.

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM: This Government have no information about the names of members of the Sub-Committee. About the terms of reference, they are quite comprehensive, e.g., how this upward trend in prices should be checked. So, they cover a very large and wide field.

Rickshaws

* 749 *Q.*—SRI A. A. RASHEED: Will the Hon. the Minister for Home be pleased to state whether any time-limit has been fixed by the Government for the abolition of rickshaws ?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM: The answer is in the negative.

SRI A. A. RASHEED: Have the Government of India recommended to this Government for the abolition of rickshaws ?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM: The Government of India have suggested that these rickshaws may be abolished in a gradual way.

SRI A. A. RASHEED: What is the number of rickshaws now plying and when do the Government expect all the rickshaws to be abolished in the State ?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : In the City of Madras, 3,725 hand-pulled and 1,004 cycle rickshaws are plying. As many as 1,500 men were licensed as drivers of cycle rickshaws. I cannot say when these rickshaws would be totally abolished. We have, while